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Country: Haiti

Subject: Copper Market -- Statistical Notes

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Place Acquired

Date Acquired:

This unevaluated information for US officials Only is supplied for the possible interest of your analysts. It does not warrant dissemination by report.

Date of Info: 1951- Early 1953

Source:

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Consumption

- 1. Haiti, an unindustrialized country, consumes little copper. It depends exclusively on foreign sources for its supply of this metal.
- 2. According to figures supplied by the Fiscal Office of Haiti, total imports of copper and its alloys for the period of October 1951- September 1952 amounted to 187 metric tons 122 Z sic Z valued at US \$300,149 (cif. value). For the same period in 1950-51, total imports amounted to 170 tons valued at US \$207,158. Entries during October, November and December 1952 amounted to 19 metric tons 199; 10 tons 545; and 18 tons 974.
- 3. The countries of origin for copper imports were as follows:

(Note: Tonnage data is not kept by the Haitian Government; the only import records are in terms of dollar value.)

Country of origin	Value
US Belgium Italy UK France Switzerland Germany	US \$161,422 \$ 3,796 \$ 3,362 \$ 2,223 \$ 1,972 \$ 902 \$ 860

- 4. Statistics of copper imports are compiled in Haiti under the general classification of "copper and its alloys". It is not possible to know the comparative quantities of blister copper, electrolytic copper and refined copper imports.
- 5. The copper imports consist mostly of sheets, tubes and wire. The US is the largest supplier with a total supply amounting to about US \$100,000 per annum.

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6. Haiti's consumption rate for copper is almost equal to its volume of imports. Only a negligible quantity of scrap is gathered locally.

Production

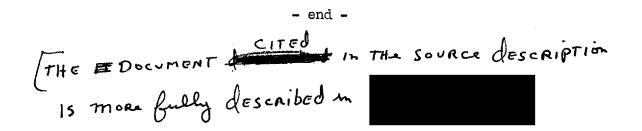
7. There are no copper mining enterprises, ore smelters nor refineries now in operation in Haiti. Mrs. Helen Christian (American) and Messrs. Fauber-Bonhomme & Associates (Haitians and Americans) recently / date not specified / obtained privileges from the Haitian Government to exploit copper mines in, respectively, Gde. Riviere du Nord and Terre-Neuve. Both concessions are in the northern part of the island. The companies have not yet / April 1953 / started production. The concession for the Gde. Riviere du Nord mine was previously held by the Societe D'Exploitation Miniere S. A., which shipped 70 tons of copper ore (14% copper content) to the US between October 1950 and June 1951. No shipments elsewhere. It is reported that copper ore originating from Gde. Riviere du Nord has an average copper content of 14%.

Scrap

8. The volume of copper scrap exported by Haiti is negligible. Such scrap is usually mixed with bulk shipment of other metal scrap, so no statistical data for copper scrap shipments is available. Scrap was exported to the US, Germany and Belgium.

Manufacture

9. A few months ago / prior to April 1953 7 the Haiti Metal Co., S. A. was organized in Port-au-Prince to manufacture aluminum kitchen vessels. It is expected that as soon as they start making copper items, imports of copper to Haiti will increase according to their demand.



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